

Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for administering a subsidiary account, the method being performed by a computer and comprising the steps of:

~~receiving, from a parent system, a request to establish a subsidiary account associated with a parent account;~~

allocating, by a computer based system for administering a subsidiary account, a first credit line to the subsidiary account, wherein the first credit line is at least a portion of an available credit line of the parent account;

authorizing, by the computer based system, a second credit line associated with the subsidiary account and provided by an account issuer;

defining, by the computer based system, a subsidiary account spending capacity based on a currency of a first country, the first credit line, and the second credit line;

determining, by the computer based system, an exchange rate corresponding to the currency of the first country and a currency of a second country distinct from the first country;

determining, by the computer based system by the parent system, an effective time period associated with the exchange rate;

authorizing storing, by the computer based system in a database, a purchase with a subsidiary account identifier, the exchange rate, and the effective time period, wherein purchases made using the subsidiary account are limited by the subsidiary account spending capacity, and wherein, during the effective time period, purchases made using the subsidiary account in the currency of the second country are converted into the currency of the first country according to the exchange rate; and

accommodating, by the computer based system, an emergency transaction in accordance with predefined criteria by allowing the subsidiary account to exceed the subsidiary account's defined spending capacity.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the parent account is established by a first account issuer institution and the subsidiary account is at least partially maintained by a second account issuer institution.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the second account issuer institution is situated in a location remote from the first account issuer institution.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the second account issuer institution is situated in a second country that is different from [[the]] a first country associated with [[of]] the first account issuer institution.

5. – 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of modifying, by the computer based system, the subsidiary account spending capacity in response to a request from the parent system.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of modifying, by the computer based system, [[a]] the available credit line of the parent account spending power based on a modification of the subsidiary account spending capacity.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of tracking, by the computer based system, spending incurred using the subsidiary account.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of limiting, by the computer based system, total spending incurred using the subsidiary account.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of limiting, by the computer based system, spending incurred using the subsidiary account for a specific class of goods or services.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of limiting, by the computer based system, spending incurred using the subsidiary account at a specific class of merchants.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of limiting, by the computer based system, spending incurred using the subsidiary account at a specific merchant.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of enforcing, by the computer based system, specific restrictions against the subsidiary account, wherein the specific restrictions condition the use of the parent account.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating, by the computer based system, a statement for the subsidiary account.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating, by the computer based system, a statement for the parent account.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of terminating, by the computer based system, the subsidiary account in response to a request from the parent system.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the subsidiary account is configured to carry-over spending capacity from one cycle to the next.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the subsidiary account is configured to prevent carry-over of spending capacity from one cycle to the next.

24. – 40. (Canceled)

41. (Withdrawn) A system for administering a subsidiary account, the system comprising:

a server configured to:

receive, from a parent system, a request to establish a subsidiary account associated with a parent account,

define a subsidiary account spending capacity based on a currency of a first country,

determine an exchange rate corresponding to the currency of the first country and a currency of a second country distinct from the first country,

receive, from the parent system, an effective time period associated with the exchange rate; and

a database configured to store a subsidiary account identifier, the exchange rate, and the effective time period, wherein purchases made using the subsidiary account are limited by the subsidiary account spending capacity, and wherein, during the effective time period, purchases made using the subsidiary account in the currency of the second country are converted into the currency of the first country according to the exchange rate.

42. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 41, further comprising:

a merchant system including:

a merchant server configured to receive at least one of an account number and a transaction request, and

a merchant point of sale (POS) device configured to communicate with a customer interface and the merchant server, the POS device configured to receive an account number and provide the account number and the transaction request to the merchant server;

the customer interface for inputting the account number to the merchant server; and

a financial institution system configured to communicate with the merchant server.

43. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 41, wherein the subsidiary account is reloadable.

44. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 41, wherein the subsidiary account is fully maintained by one of a domestic and foreign financial institution.

45. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 42, wherein the financial institution system further includes a financial institution server configured to communicate with the merchant server.

46. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 45, wherein the financial institution system further includes a financial institution database configured to communicate with the financial institution server, the financial institution database including a plurality of distinct subsidiary account storage locations wherein at least one of the plurality of distinct subsidiary account storage locations stores a unique subsidiary card number, the unique subsidiary card number corresponding to the subsidiary account number.

47. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 46, wherein the subsidiary account number further includes a unique transaction routing code, said routing code corresponding to the financial institution system.

48. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 47, wherein the financial institution system is located in a foreign country, wherein the merchant server provides the subsidiary account number and the transaction request to the financial institution server, in accordance with at least one of an account domestic payment network system code and the unique transaction routing code.

49. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 48, wherein the financial institution server is configured to match the account number to a corresponding one of the plurality of subsidiary card

numbers, the financial institution server further configured to retrieve the corresponding subsidiary card number in response to the transaction request, the subsidiary card number including subsidiary account information.

50. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 49, wherein the subsidiary card number is characterized by a predetermined monetary value.

51. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 50, wherein the financial institution server is configured to compare the transaction request to the predetermined monetary value, and provide to the merchant system at least one of a transaction authorized or transaction denied message, the transaction authorized message being provided where the transaction request is less than or equal to the predetermined monetary value, the transaction denied message being provided where the transaction request is more than the predetermined monetary value.

52. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 51, wherein the financial institution is characterized by a financial institution domestic payment network system code, the financial institution domestic payment network system code corresponding to the account domestic payment network system code.

53. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 52, wherein the financial institution server is configured to provide a monetary amount to the merchant server in response to the transaction request.

54. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 53, wherein the financial institution server is configured to provide the monetary amount in accordance with existing monetary exchange rates.

55. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 54, wherein the subsidiary card number is characterized by an expiration date, and the transaction request is characterized by a transaction request date.

56. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 55, wherein the merchant system server provides the transaction request date to the financial institution system server.

57. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 56, wherein the financial institution server is configured to compare the transaction request date to the expiration date, the merchant server further configured to return a transaction denied message where the transaction date occurs later in time than the expiration date.

58. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 57, wherein the parent system is further configured to communicate with the financial institution system server and to provide the predetermined monetary value to the financial institution for establishing the subsidiary account spending limit, the subsidiary account spending limit corresponding to the predetermined monetary amount, the predetermined monetary value provided in a currency capable of being processed by the financial institution system.

59. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 58, wherein the financial institution server is configured to reload the subsidiary account spending limit in response to the provided predetermined monetary value.

60. (Withdrawn) The system according to claim 59, wherein the parent system is configured to provide an updated expiration date to the financial institution server, the updated expiration date corresponding to at least one of the subsidiary card numbers, the updated expiration date configured to replace the subsidiary card expiration date correlating to the one of the subsidiary accounts.

61. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 60, wherein the financial institution server is configured to provide a portion of the predetermined monetary value to the parent system at the expiration date, the portion of the predetermined value being provided in the currency of the country of at least one of the financial institution and the parent system.

62. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising reducing, by the computer based system, the available credit line of the parent account by the first amount.

63. (New) A tangible non-transitory computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon that, if executed by a computer based system for administering a subsidiary account, cause the computer based system to perform operations comprising:

allocating, by the computer based system, a first credit line to the subsidiary account, wherein the first credit line is at least a portion of an available credit line of the parent account;

authorizing, by the computer based system, a second credit line associated with the subsidiary account and provided by an account issuer;

defining, by the computer based system, a subsidiary account spending capacity based on a currency of a first country, the first credit line, and the second credit line;

determining, by the computer based system, an exchange rate corresponding to the currency of the first country and a currency of a second country distinct from the first country;

determining, by the computer based system, an effective time period associated with the exchange rate;

authorizing, by the computer based system, a purchase with a subsidiary account, wherein purchases made using the subsidiary account are limited by the subsidiary account spending capacity, and wherein, during the effective time period, purchases made using the subsidiary account in the currency of the second country are converted into the currency of the first country according to the exchange rate; and

accommodating, by the computer based system, an emergency transaction in accordance with predefined criteria by allowing the subsidiary account to exceed the subsidiary account's defined spending capacity.

64. (New) A computer based system for administering a subsidiary account comprising:

a network interface communicating with a memory;

the memory communicating with a processor; and

the processor, when executing a computer program, is configured to:

allocate a first credit line to the subsidiary account, wherein the first credit line is at least a portion of an available credit line of the parent account;

authorize a second credit line associated with the subsidiary account and provided by an account issuer;

define a subsidiary account spending capacity based on a currency of a first country, the first credit line, and the second credit line;

determine an exchange rate corresponding to the currency of the first country and a currency of a second country distinct from the first country;

determine an effective time period associated with the exchange rate;

authorize a purchase with a subsidiary account, wherein purchases made using the subsidiary account are limited by the subsidiary account spending capacity, and wherein, during the effective time period, purchases made using the subsidiary account in the

currency of the second country are converted into the currency of the first country according to the exchange rate; and

accommodate an emergency transaction in accordance with predefined criteria by allowing the subsidiary account to exceed the subsidiary account's defined spending capacity.